

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CONAKR 00781 301024Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 300915Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0776

S E C R E T CONAKRY 0781

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOR AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, GV

SUBJECT: PL480 FOOD AID FOR GUINEA

REF: A. CONAKRY 0780

B. CONAKRY 0704

1. EMBASSY REFTEL A TRANSMITS FONOFF NOTE DETAILING GUINEAN FY76 PL480 TITLE I REQUEST, PLUS REQUEST FOR LARGE SUPPLEMENTARY PL480 ALLOCATION UNDER FY75 PROGRAM (WHETHER TITLE I OR TITLE II IS NOT SPECIFIED), AS PER SEKOU TOURE LETTER OF MAY 10 TO PRESIDENT FORD (REF B). DO NOT REPEAT NOT BELIEVE IT IS IN US INTEREST TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMODITIES TO GUINEAN IN FY75.

2. SINCE EARLY 1960'S TITLE I HAS SUPPLIED IMPORTANT PROPORTION OF FOOD REQUIREMENTS IN COUNTRY THAT SHOULD BY ALL RIGHTS ITSELF EXPORT FOOD. SUBSTANTIAL FY75 AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED MAY 8 (AND RESIDUAL TITLE II GRANT IS ALSO IN PIPELINE). PL480 IN EFFECT SUBSIDIZES MISGUIDED ECONOMIC AND AGRICULTURAL POLICIES WHICH UNLESS MODIFIED OFFER NO PROSPECT OF RESTORING GUINEAN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION. WE MUST NOT, OF COURSE, INTERFERE WITH INTERNAL GUINEAN POLICIES. HOWEVER, OUR TITLE I AID FACILITATES COUNTER-

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PAGE 02 CONAKR 00781 301024Z

PRODUCTIVE MANAGEMENT OF ECONOMY. EROSION OF ECONOMY

UNDER DYSFUNCTIONAL GOG COLLECTIVIST POLICIES HAS MADE GUINEA LESS AND LESS ABLE TO MEET MINIMUM FOOD NEEDS AND ACCUMULATING DEBT PAYMENTS WHICH ARE CONSTANTLY IN DEFAULT.

3. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES PL480 ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE HELD TO MINIMUM LEVEL REQUIRED TO MEET EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN NEEDS TO MAINTAIN GOOD WILL, AND TO HELP PERMIT USG TO PROTECT INTERESTS OF AMERICAN INVESTMENT (TO EXTENT SUCH PROTECTION BECOMES NECESSARY OR POSSIBLE ANYWAY).

4. AVERAGE LEVEL OF PL480 PROGRAMS PAST SEVERAL YEARS ESTABLISHED A KIND OF FLOOR IT WILL BE POLITICALLY DIFFICULT TO LOWER IN FY76. ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION FOR FY75 UNDER EITHER TITLE WOULD TEND TO RAISE THIS FLOOR AND ENCOURAGE GOG TO RELY STILL MORE HEAVILY ON US ASSISTANCE, THUS FURTHER POSTPONING ESSENTIAL REINTRODUCTION OF MARKET FORCES TO ECONOMY.

5. RECOMMEND PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO NEW TOURE LETTER (A) STRESS OUR SATISFACTION THAT US TITLE I FOOD HAS BEEN HELPFUL TO GUINEAN PEOPLE, (B) REGRET WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO FURTHER AMEND 1975 PROGRAMS, (C) EXPRESS HOPE THAT, WITH COOPERATION OF GOG IN MEETING SCHEDULED DEBT PAYMENTS, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO IMPLEMENT A 1976 TITLE PROGRAM EARLIER IN NEXT FISCAL YEAR AND (D) URGE THAT GOG OFFICIALS WORK CLOSELY WITH US EMBASSY CONAKRY WHICH WILL BE THE ACTION AGENCY CONCERNED.

6. WISH PARTICULARLY TO AVOID REPETITION OF SITUATION IN WHICH GOG AFTER FAILING OF SATISFACTION THROUGH EMBASSY CONAKRY OBTAINS DESIRED ASSISTANCE THROUGH ITS EMBASSY OR A SPECIAL MISSION DESPATCHED TO WASHINGTON. THIS EMBASSY RELIES UPON DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP IN WASHINGTON BUREAUCRACY TO MAKE CERTAIN GUINEAN OFFICIALS CANNOT WORK THROUGH VARIOUS INTERESTED US AGENCIES TO OBTAIN RESULTS DIFFERENT FROM US POSITION TAKEN IN CONAKRY.

7. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITTED STADIS TO PREVENT LEAKS IN
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PAGE 03 CONAKR 00781 301024Z

WASHINGTON ABOUT EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION. REQUEST MAXIMUM DISCRETION.
HARROP

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NNN

Message Attributes

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